CIA Probers Quiz Kelley, Two Others

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The Rockefeller Commission questioned FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley and two other witnesses yesterday about the FBI's sometimes fragile relationships with the Central Intelligence Agency.

The lengthiest testimony at the closed session came from Sam J. Papich, the FBI's liaison officer with the CIA from 1952 to 1970, when J. Edgar Hoover broke off all formal contacts with the agency.

Now executive director of a state-level Organized Crime Prevention Commission in New Mexico, Papich told newsmen that dealings between the two agencies generally went quite smoothly although they began on a "rocky road in the late '40s and early '50s."

Papich also suggested that the current controversy over domestic spying by the CIA had been exaggerated and that public attention should be focused instead on the KGB agents at the Soviet embassy in Washington.

"There are quite a few of them in that building on 16th Street," Papich said of the Soviet embassy. He said he was satisfied that KGB agents there were involved in "more domestic surveillance and invasion of privacy" than the CIA, but declined to elaborate.

FBI Director Kelley and William O. Cregar, now section chief in the FBI's counterintelligence division, declined to comment after their testimony. Cregar also served as an FBI liaison officer with the CIA from 1961 to 1969.